

**HEARING SCREENING (PURETONE AUDIOMETRY)
COMPETENCY CRITERIA**

DOCUMENTATION OF COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT

CHECK WHEN OBSERVED	COMPETENCIES: Essential Steps for Accurate Screening <i>Licensed Health Care Professional observes screener accurately performing these steps in sequence with minimal coaching:</i>
	1. Assess environment for ambient background noise that will disrupt screening.
	2. Assemble equipment in desired location.
	3. Check the audiometer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Check cords, cushions, and headbands for excessive wearing or cracking. ✓ Check dials and switches for alignment and ease of movement. ✓ Listen for the tone through each earphone. ✓ With the audiometer set for continuous tone, slide the entire length of the cords between the thumb and index finger noting any change in output signal. ✓ Gently shake the cords. There should be no static, hum, or interruption of the signal. ✓ Make sure when tone is directed to one earphone, no sound is heard from the other earphone. ✓ Make sure a steady tone is present at all frequencies. With the tone switch in “normal-off” position, press the interrupter switch several times to make sure the tone is present each time. ✓ Listen to the frequencies at 20 dB to make sure the tones are audible to the screener with normal hearing.
	4. Give simple but complete instructions to the student: “Listen very carefully. You will hear one tone at a time, sometimes very soft and sometimes louder. When you hear a sound, raise your hand so I can see you have heard that sound, then put your head down and wait for the next sound.”
	4. Place earphones comfortably and securely on the student’s head: red earphone on the right, blue on the left. The center of the ear pad should be centered over the opening of the ear.
	5. Offer a test sound of 40 dB at 4000 Hz to confirm the student demonstrates understanding of the instructions.
	6. Proceed with offering screening tones as follows each delivered separately to the right and left, all at 20 dB, for 2 seconds’ duration (say, “hearing test” to yourself). Vary time intervals and sequence between tones. Each tone may be offered up to three times to determine response.

	<p>Testing frequencies are: 1000 Hz, 2000Hz, 4000 Hz.</p> <p>Pass if the child's responses are judged to be clinically reliable at least 2 out of 3 times at the criterion decibel level at each frequency in each ear.</p>
	7. Record results.
	8. Identify the student who should be rescreened, if available, and/or parent notified.

SCREENER NAME AND DATE OF OBSERVATION BY HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL:

The above-named individual has been observed by the licensed health care professional identified below, as competent in performing the tasks identified above, using the following equipment:

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

Licensed Health Care Professional Signature: _____

Health Care Professional Name Printed

License No.

Date